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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Art Unit: 1647
OKAMURA et al) Examiner: D. Fitzgerald
Appln. No.: 09/050,249) Washington, D.C.
Filed: March 30, 1998) September 25, 2000
For: IFN-GAMMA PRODUCTION) Atty.Docket: OKAMURA=2B
INDUCING PROTEIN AND MONO-)
CLONAL ANTIBODY OF THE SAME)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merit, please amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 56 and 59-92 without prejudice and add new claims 93-117 in place thereof as follows:

--93. A monoclonal antibody which specifically recognizes an interferon-gamma (IFN- γ) inducing protein (IGIF or IL-18) having the following physiochemical properties and which can recover said interferon-gamma (IFN- γ) inducing protein with a purity of at least 95% and in a yield of nearly 100% when used to purify said interferon-gamma (IFN- γ) inducing protein:

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